IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-24 (Canceled).

Claim 25 (Currently Amended): A packet communication network that is connected to a first external network and a second external network, and that executes packet communication between the first external network and the second external network for a plurality of services of which quality requirements on an end-to-end basis are different, the packet communication network comprising:

a parallel network constituted by a plurality of ~~any one of~~ physically [[and]] or logically independent internal networks;

~~at least one classifier that is connected to the first external network and to each of the networks in the parallel network, and that classifies a packet received from the first external network to one of the networks in the parallel network~~

at least one classifier connected to the first external network and to each internal network, when classifying a packet to one of the internal networks in the parallel network, the classifier identifying a packet as a voice packet when a pair of a transmission source address and a destination address as well as a destination port number are equal to a pair of addresses between which a conversation is held by a voice service and classifying the voice packet to a voice network among the internal networks; and

at least one multiplexer that prioritizes a packet received from the voice network over a packet received from other internal networks, the at least one multiplexer being [[is]] connected to each of the internal networks in the parallel network and to the second external network[[,]] and ~~that multiplies~~ multiplexing packets received from a plurality of internal

networks in the parallel network~~, and that outputs~~ when outputting a multiplexed packet to the second external network.

Claim 26 (Previously Presented): The packet communication network according to claim 25, wherein the classifier classifies a packet according to a feature amount of a form of the packet.

Claim 27 (Previously Presented): The packet communication network according to claim 26, wherein the feature amount is a packet length of the packet.

Claim 28 (Previously Presented): The packet communication network according to claim 25, wherein the classifier classifies a packet according to a feature amount of contents of the packet.

Claim 29 (Previously Presented): The packet communication network according to claim 28, wherein the feature amount is a DiffServ code point of an IP packet.

Claim 30 (Previously Presented): The packet communication network according to claim 28, wherein the feature amount is any one of a protocol number of an IP packet, a destination port number of a UDP packet, and a destination port number of a TCP packet.

Claim 31 (Previously Presented): The packet communication network according to claim 26, wherein the classifier classifies the packet according to a time series change in a sum of data amounts of packets having an equal feature amount.

Claim 32 (Previously Presented): The packet communication network according to claim 28, wherein the classifier classifies the packet according to a time series change in a sum of data amounts of packets having an equal feature amount.

Claim 33 (Previously Presented): The packet communication network according to claim 25, wherein the classifier includes a detector that detects a status of traffic of each of the networks in the parallel network, and classifies a packet according to the status of the traffic.

Claim 34 (Previously Presented): The packet communication network according to claim 25, wherein the networks in the parallel network are logically grouped into a plurality of groups so that each of the groups includes a plurality of networks that are physically same.

Claim 35 (Previously Presented): The packet communication network according to claim 34, wherein each of the groups includes a unit that dynamically changes an allocation of bands to each of the networks in the group.

Claim 36 (Previously Presented): The packet communication network according to claim 25, wherein the multiplexer preferentially processes a packet received from a specific one of the networks in the parallel network.

Claim 37 (Previously Presented): The packet communication network according to claim 25, wherein the multiplexer preferentially processes a packet having a predetermined feature amount.

Claim 38 (Currently Amended): A packet communication method, realized on a packet communication network with a plurality of internal networks in a parallel network that is connected to a first external network and a second external network, ~~and that executes a~~ executing packet communication between the first external network and the second external network, ~~wherein the packet communication network includes~~

~~a parallel network constituted by a plurality of any one of physically and logically independent networks;~~

~~at least one classifier that is connected to the first external network and to each of the networks in the parallel network; and~~

~~at least one multiplexer that is connected to each of the networks in the parallel network and to the second external network, wherein~~ the packet communication method comprising ~~comprises~~:

[[the]] a classifier, connected to the first external network and to each of a plurality of internal networks, the plurality of internal networks being physically or logically independent and in a parallel network, classifying a packet received from the first external network to one of the plurality of internal networks in the parallel network, the classifier identifying a packet as a voice packet when a pair of a transmission source address and a destination address as well as a destination port number are equal to a pair of addresses between which a conversation is held by a voice service and classifying [[a]] the voice packet ~~received from the first external network~~ to a voice network among ~~one of~~ the plurality of internal networks in the parallel network;

~~each of~~ the one of the internal networks in the parallel network that the classifier classified the packet to transferring the packet; and

[[the]] a multiplexer, connected to each of the plurality of internal networks in the parallel network and to the second external network, multiplexing packets received from two

or more ~~a plurality~~ internal networks in the parallel network and outputting a multiplexed packet to the second external network.

Claim 39 (Previously Presented): The packet communication method according to claim 38, wherein the classifier classifies a packet according to a feature amount of a form of the packet.

Claim 40 (Previously Presented): The packet communication method according to claim 39, wherein the feature amount is a packet length of the packet.

Claim 41 (Previously Presented): The packet communication method according to claim 38, wherein the classifier classifies a packet according to a feature amount of contents of the packet.

Claim 42 (Previously Presented): The packet communication method according to claim 41, wherein the feature amount is a DiffServ code point of an IP packet.

Claim 43 (Previously Presented): The packet communication method according to claim 41, wherein the feature amount is any one of a protocol number of an IP packet, a destination port number of a UDP packet, and a destination port number of a TCP packet.

Claim 44 (Previously Presented): The packet communication method according to claim 39, wherein the classifier classifies the packet according to a time series change in a sum of data amounts of packets having an equal feature amount.

Claim 45 (Previously Presented): The packet communication method according to claim 41, wherein the classifier classifies the packet according to a time series change in a sum of data amounts of packets having an equal feature amount.

Claim 46 (Previously Presented): The packet communication method according to claim 38, wherein the classifier detects a status of traffic of each of the networks in the parallel network, and classifies a packet according to the status of the traffic.

Claim 47 (Previously Presented): The packet communication method according to claim 38, wherein the networks in the parallel network are logically grouped into a plurality of groups so that each of the groups includes a plurality of networks that are physically same.

Claim 48 (Previously Presented): The packet communication method according to claim 47, wherein each of the groups includes a unit that dynamically changes an allocation of bands to each of the networks in the group.

Claim 49 (Previously Presented): The packet communication method according to claim 38, wherein the multiplexer preferentially processes a packet received from a specific one of the networks in the parallel network.

Claim 50 (Previously Presented): The packet communication method according to claim 38, wherein the multiplexer preferentially processes a packet having a predetermined feature amount.